

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 INR-05 IO-03  
H-03 EB-04 CIAE-00 OES-02 L-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
EUR-08 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SY-02 /060 W  
-----110276 190646Z /20  
R 190210Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9439

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 10750

LIMDIS

DEPT. PLS PASS DOL FOR SECRETARY MARSHALL AND DEPUTY UNDER  
SECRETARY SAMUELS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ELAB, JA, OVIP  
SUBJECT: MINISTER OF LABOR ISHIDA'S INTEREST IN U.S. VISIT

1. MINISTER OF LABOR ISHIDA, LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S (LDP)  
RANKING LABOR AFFAIRS EXPERT AND SENIOR MEMBER FORMER  
PRIME MINISTER MIKI'S FACTION, HAS CONVEYED TO LABATT THROUGH  
DIET SECRETARIES AND HIS SON-IN-LAW YOSUKE MIYAKE (MIDDLE-  
LEVEL MOFA OFFICIAL) THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT U.S. FOR  
APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK NEXT MONTH FOR INFORMAL TALKS ON  
ILO AND TRADE ISSUES WITH SECRETARY MARSHALL AND AFL-CIO  
AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON GENERAL FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS  
WITH CONGRESSMEN AND SENIOR STATE AND NSC OFFICIALS.  
ISHIDA REPORTEDLY BELIEVES THAT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH  
SECRETARY MARSHALL EARLIER IN YEAR AND INTENSE PREOCCUPATION  
HERE WITH POSSIBLE U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO PROVIDE JUSTI-  
FICATION FOR TRIP TO U.S. AT THIS TIME. ISHIDA INDICATED  
THAT, WHILE HE WOULD OF COURSE COVER ALL EXPENSES OF TRIP,  
HE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST  
FROM U.S. SIDE IN FORM INFORMAL LETTER FROM SECRETARY  
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MARSHALL WELCOMING VISIT BY HIM AND AGREEING TO DISCUSS  
MATTERS OF COMMON CONCERN IN INTERNATIONAL LABOR FIELD.  
ISHIDA'S AIDES SAID THAT, UPON RECEIPT LETTER, ISHIDA  
WOULD THEN OBTAIN CABINET APPROVAL FOR VISIT AND PROCEED  
TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATES THROUGH US AS WELL  
AS JAPANESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

2. ISHIDA HAS ACTED, OVER PAST DECADE, AS ONE OF LDP'S PRINCIPAL INTERMEDIARIES VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIET UNION. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE MET WITH BREZHNEV IN MOSCOW LAST MONTH IN EFFORT TO REPAIR DAMAGE DONE TO SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONSHIP BY BITTERNESS OF RECENT BILATERAL FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ISHIDA IS CONCERNED THAT BECAUSE OF HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH SOVIET AFFAIRS HE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED PRO-SOVIET BY AMERICANS. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT ISHIDA EXPECTS U.S. TRIP TO HELP ERASE THIS IMPRESSION AND TO RE-ESTABLISH HIS AMERICAN CONNECTIONS. (HE VISITED U.S. SEVERAL TIMES IN 1950'S AND HAD EXCELLENT WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH SECRETARY WIRTZ IN EARLY 1960'S.)

3. WHATEVER ISHIDA'S MOTIVES MAY BE, EMBASSY BELIEVES ISHIDA VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN NEAR FUTURE IN U.S. INTEREST. ISHIDA IS ARTICULATE, WELL-CONNECTED, SENIOR LDP POLITICIAN, WHO CAN RELAY TO KEY SECTORS OF JAPANESE ESTABLISHMENT CONCERNS OF USG AND AMERICAN LABOR UNIONS ON SUCH TOPICS AS ILO AND BILATERAL TRADE QUESTIONS AND REASONS BEHIND USG'S EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. IN SUM, WE RECOMMEND THAT SECRETARY MARSHALL SEND LETTER ALONG LINES MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH ONE TO ISHIDA AND THAT DEPARTMENT SUBSEQUENTLY ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS FOR HIM IN WASHINGTON.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, OVIP, JA, US, (ISHIDA, HIROHIDE)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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